



## **Request for City Council Committee Action from the Neighborhood and Community Relations Department**

**Date:** May 27, 2014  
**To:** Council Member Cam Gordon, Chair, Health, Environment and Community Engagement Committee  
**Referral to:** City Council  
**Subject:** **Community Connections Conference Evaluation Report**  
**Recommendation:** Receive and File  
**Previous Directives:** None

### **Department Information**

Prepared by: David M Rubedor, Neighborhood and Community Relations Director

Approved by:

David Rubedor, Neighborhood and Community Relations Director \_\_\_\_\_

City Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_

Presenters in Committee: David M Rubedor, NCR and Cathy Spann, Jordan Area  
Community Council Executive Director

**Financial Impact:** No financial impact

**Community Impact:** The Neighborhood and Community Relations department's business plan states that the department will, on an annual basis, gather the City's neighborhoods together to discuss broader neighborhood and city-wide issues. Such a summit will provide a forum to support broader discussions and alignment between neighborhoods and the City. The department has hosted a total of two community conferences since 2011.

**Supporting Information:** The Neighborhood and Community Relations (NCR) department held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Community Connections Conference on Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. The conference planning committee included participation by Minneapolis neighborhoods, the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission and NCR staff.

The 2014 Community Connections Conference was designed specifically for neighborhood organizations, cultural communities, nonprofit organizations, City departments and residents to share best practices of neighborhood engagement and alignment with our work. This year's conference theme—Common Ground: A City That Works for All—aimed to:

1. Help attendees hone their organizational and communication skills
2. Learn how to better work with and influence city government

3. Build broad-based efforts that involve all segments of our increasingly diverse spectrum of neighborhoods and community.

Overall, the evaluation indicates that the conference was highly successful and provided a good experience for the attendees. See full conference evaluation report for details.